

I wish to inform these presents shall come.

Edwin Howard Moore, Commanding U.S. Navy  
and also in command of the Texas Ship of War called the Auster  
and Brig of War called the Wharton, in making in said Port of  
Santo Domingo State of Louisiana bound on a cruise on the Coast of  
Mexico and thence back to this Port of New Orleans. Coma Greeting

Whereas the said ship of War Auster and Brig of War  
Wharton are under detention in this port and unable to proceed on their  
intended cruise for want of money to pay certain debts due & contracted  
for the use and advantage of the said vessels.

And whereas the said Edwin Howard Moore, Acom  
in command of the aforesaid ship of War Auster and Brig of War Wharton,  
being without funds of any kind, or belonging to the Government of the  
Republic of Texas, and unable to raise money either on his own credit  
or on the credit of the Government of the Republic of Texas to pay the  
said debts and thereby enable the said vessels of War under my com-  
mand to proceed on their intended cruise which said debts amount  
in the aggregate to the sum of Five thousand dollars; and whereas  
I am compelled to take up and borrow upon the bottom of the said  
vessels of War Auster and Wharton, the said sum of Five thousand  
dollars, for the purpose of paying the said debts and enable me to  
proceed with the said vessels on the said intended cruise.

And whereas Robert W. Estlin of this city has sent me  
and advanced unto me the said sum of Five thousand dollars at  
the rate of five per cent per each and every month advanced during the  
said intended cruise and that upon the receipt of the said sum the  
said ship Auster and Brig Wharton

Now know ye, that I the said Edwin Howard  
Moore do by these presents for myself my executors & administrators  
covenant grant and agree to and with the said Robert W. Estlin